

Spanish Fork pledges support on flood issue

By Patrick A. Bryson
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SPANISH FORK — City Council members have pledged support to the Utah County Landowners Association, joining other Utah County cities that stand behind the organization fighting Salt Lake County over flood issues.

But for now, Spanish Fork's support will be mostly moral — not financial.

The landowners association is suing the Salt Spring Island Regional District, "We're not part of" the group, says a spokesman.

Spanish Fork felt its contribution to the Jordan River, causing it to flood.

The friction between the landowners association and the city association sent the City suggested, in an abrasive of Spanish Fork become parts in the lawsuit and support.

The flooding effort was work to clear and dredge the Spanish Fork River. A crew working the river removed more than 240,000 cubic yards of material and reinforced 47,000 feet of riverbank along problem portions of the channel. Now the river is running more than twice as fast as normal.

That work was done at substantial cost.

the city. The project was \$260,000, but went over its

spent \$55,000 extra for work at Canyon View Park, work that cost \$30,000. The city is waiting for state funds that will pay for most of the work. Right now money is tight.

The Utah County Land Office hoped for a commitment of

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as well as a promise for more money whenever it becomes available.

"I think we should go on record to support them and, when money becomes available we'll support them financially," said Councilman Jack Leifson.

Councilman Rex Woodhouse agreed with Leifson's proposal but wanted something little stronger. "Let's amend that proposal and throw in \$250," said Woodhouse.

A member of the Landowners Association asked if the council could provide more money than that.

"We're overspent now," said Mayor Ludlow. "You can't spend public money you don't have."

ancial donation, have."

The water will be diverted to the storm drains one street down to avoid further flooding.

"Everyone has been very cooperative and things are looking good and we seem to have the Slate Canyon situation under control," he said.

The goal of the city in controlling Slate Canyon water flow is to keep as little water in the water retention basin as possible and to get the water flowing out of the basin at a controlled rate, he said.

The diverted water will probably run its neighborhood course for about four weeks, Gammie said.

"It is great to see the people of Provo working together for a cause. The Arctic Circle restaurant located at a key runoff spot along

Another flooding priority is to protect the city's sewage treatment plant located near 18th South and 350 West. The plant is adjacent to the city's Timpanogos Golf Course, which has been invaded by water, said the mayor.

About 11 of the 27 holes of the course are covered with water.

"With 11 holes affected it is pretty hard to shoot par," said Dave Gunn, director of public services.

Crew planned Wednesday to add another three feet to the dikes that protect both areas, Gunn said.

"The sewer plant is definitely a priority because it affects the entire city. We want to keep any water away from the plant," he said.

Because of the flooding experience we got last year, doing it the second time sure makes a big difference," he said.

Minor damage occurred to the 10-foot dikes at the Provo Municipal Airport, which sits next to Utah Lake, said Jim Mathis, airport manager.

Water whipped by high winds washed away several rocks, but the rocks were promptly replaced on Monday night, he said.

Lake water is still about six feet below the tops of the airport dikes, Mathis said. He anticipates no problems with water coming over the dikes, but they are being monitored continually.

The current level of Utah Lake is within eight inches of peak last year, Mathis said. He

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